

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A cage assembly for housing a plurality of types of animals, the cage assembly comprising:

a cage bottom having a floor and a plurality of integral side walls extending up from the floor to side wall top edges, said top edges having a plurality of recesses therein,

the side walls defining an open top end, the side walls having an inner surface having a first height and a second height at the recesses, the second height being less than the first height.

said floor having a length  $l$  and a width  $w$  wherein

80 square inches  $\leq l \times w \leq 110$  square inches; and

a feeder assembly having a plurality of flanges, the flanges received in at least some of the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom, the feeder assembly constructed and arranged to make food and/or fluids available to animals housed in the cage bottom.

2. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 1, wherein  $l \times w$  is substantially 80 square inches.

3. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth;  
at least one cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having side wall top edges and a plurality of recesses formed in the side wall top edges, the side walls having an inner surface having a first height and a second height at the recesses, the second height being less than the first height, the cage having a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches;  
the cage further comprising a feeder assembly having a plurality of flanges received in at least some of the recesses in the top edges of the side walls of the cage bottom to make food and/or fluids available to animals housed in the cage bottom.

Claims 4-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and  
a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having recesses in the tops thereof, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches;

the side walls having an inner surface having a first height and a second height at the recesses, the second height being less than the first height;  
wherein said cage bottom has a length  $l$  and a width  $w$ , and wherein  $80 \text{ square inches} \leq l \times w \leq 110 \text{ square inches}$ ;

the cage further comprising a feeder assembly having a plurality of flanges received in at least some of the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom, the feeding assembly constructed and arranged to make food and/or fluids available to animals housed in the cage bottom.

9. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and  
a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having recesses therein, the cage having a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches, the side walls having an inner surface having a first height and a second height at the recesses, the second height being less than the first height, the cage further comprising a feeder assembly having a flange received in at least one of the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom to make food and/or fluids available to animals housed in the cage bottom;

wherein said rack has a depth and said cage rests within said rack so that said length of said cage at least partially overlaps said depth of said rack and a portion of said cage extends beyond said rack, the portion having a length and the sum of the length of the portion and the depth of said rack is less than or equal to substantially 36 inches.

10. (Currently Amended) The cage assembly of claim 1, wherein the feeder comprises one or more selectively attachable components for adjusting the height of the feeder when the flange of the feeder is received in at least one of the recess of the cage bottom.

11. (Currently Amended) A cage assembly for housing a plurality of sizes of animals, the cage assembly comprising:

a feeder assembly having a flange; and

a cage bottom for housing an animal, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having an inner surface having a first height and a second height less than the first height;

~~recesses therein the cage bottom~~ being constructed and arranged to receive the flange of the feeder assembly at the second height in the recesses to support the feeder assembly with respect to the cage bottom;

the cage bottom and feeder assembly working together to provide food and water to animals of different sizes.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The cage assembly of claim 11, wherein the feeder assembly comprises:~~ A cage assembly for housing a plurality of sizes of animals, the cage assembly comprising:

a feeder assembly having a flange;

a cage bottom for housing an animal, the cage bottom being constructed and arranged to receive the flange of the feeder assembly to support the feeder assembly with respect to the cage bottom, the cage bottom and feeder assembly working together to provide food and water to animals of different sizes;

a frame;

at least one support descending from said frame; and

a pair of flanges extending from said frame to support said frame within said cage, said at least one support has an open lower end and further comprising a snap on bottom, said snap bottom being selectively connected to said lower end of said at least one support.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The cage assembly of claim 1, wherein the feeder assembly comprises:~~  
A cage assembly for housing a plurality of types of animals, the cage assembly comprising:

a cage bottom having a floor and a plurality of integral side walls extending up from the floor to side wall top edges, said top edges having a plurality of recesses therein,

the side walls defining an open top end,

said floor having a length  $l$  and a width  $w$  wherein

$80 \text{ square inches} < l \times w < 110 \text{ square inches};$

a feeder assembly having a plurality of flanges, the flanges received in at least some of the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom, the feeder assembly constructed and arranged to make food and/or fluids available to animals housed in the cage bottom;

a frame;

at least one support descending from said frame; and

a pair of said flanges extending from said frame to support said frame within said cage, said at least one support has an open lower end and further comprising a snap on bottom, said snap bottom being selectively connected to said lower end of said at least one support.

14. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom has an upper lip extending there around, and having a channel extending around said lower end, said upper lip receiving said channel to connect said snap on bottom to said at least one support.

15. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 14, wherein said upper lip has a recess and said lower end has a tab, being received by said recess for locking said snap on bottom to said at least one support.

16. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom is a food container.

17. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom is a water bottle support.

18. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap-on bottom has an opening therein.

19. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom forms a flush surface with said at least one support.